DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 228 138 SO 014 608

TITLE	The National Council for Geographic Education Competency-Based Geography Test. Intermediate Level, Parts I, II, and III.
INSTITUTION	National Council for Geographic Education.
PUB DATE	80
NOTE	19p.; For a related document, see ED 183 459. Not available in paper copy due to colored ink throughout original document.
AVAILABLE FROM	National Council for Geographic Education, Western Illinois University, Macomb, IL 61455 ($2.00 each plus postage, $15.00 for 30 test bulletins plus $2.00 postage).
PUB TYPE	Tests/Evaluation Instruments (160)
EDRS PRICE	MF01 Plus Postage. PC Not Available from EDRS.
DESCRIPTORS	Charts; *Geography Instruction; Graphs; Human Geography; Illustrations; Intermediate Grades; Knowledge Level; Locational Skills (Social Studies); Map Skills; Multiple Choice Tests; *National Competency Tests; Physical Geography; Skill Development

ABSTRACT

The geographic knowledge, skills, and understandings of fourth, fifth, and sixth graders can be assessed through this test which was developed by the National Council for Geographic Education. The test consists of 27 questions on geography skills, 25 questions on physical geography, and 23 questions on human geography. Students are directed to answer multiple-choice questions involving map skills, locational skills, chart and graph reading, and analyses of illustrations and statements. (RM)

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THE NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR GEOGRAPHIC EDUCATION
COMPETENCY-BASED GEOGRAPHY TEST
Intermediate Level
Parts I, II, and III

ED228138

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To the Student:

This test is designed to find out what knowledge, skills, and understandings you have developed in geography. You will use maps, graphs, and a drawing to answer questions about people and their environment. In addition, you will be asked to demonstrate how well you can use certain geographic skills.

You will have to refer to the map, graph, or drawing at the top of each page to answer each question. Many of the questions will require you to think and study the maps, graphs, or drawing before selecting an answer. All questions have four possible answers. In each case, you should select the correct answer, then mark your answer on the separate sheet provided. Do not write on the test booklet. Mark only in the spaces provided on the answer sheet. Do not spend too much time on a difficult question. Now, listen carefully while your teacher explains how to take this test.

SP 014 608

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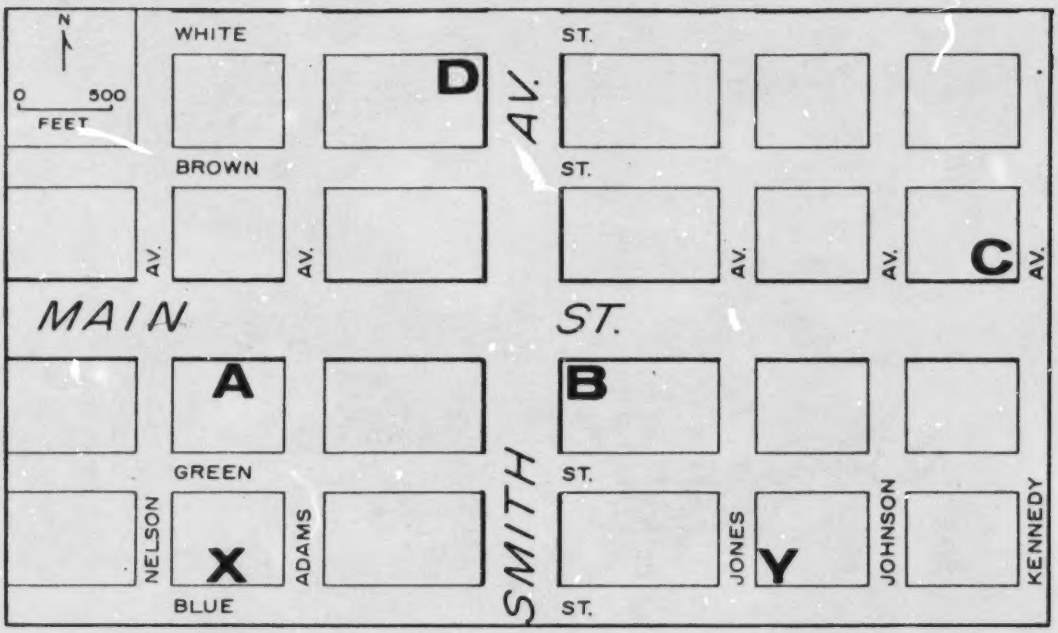
PART I - GEOGRAPHY SKILLS

MAP A: SMITH TOWN



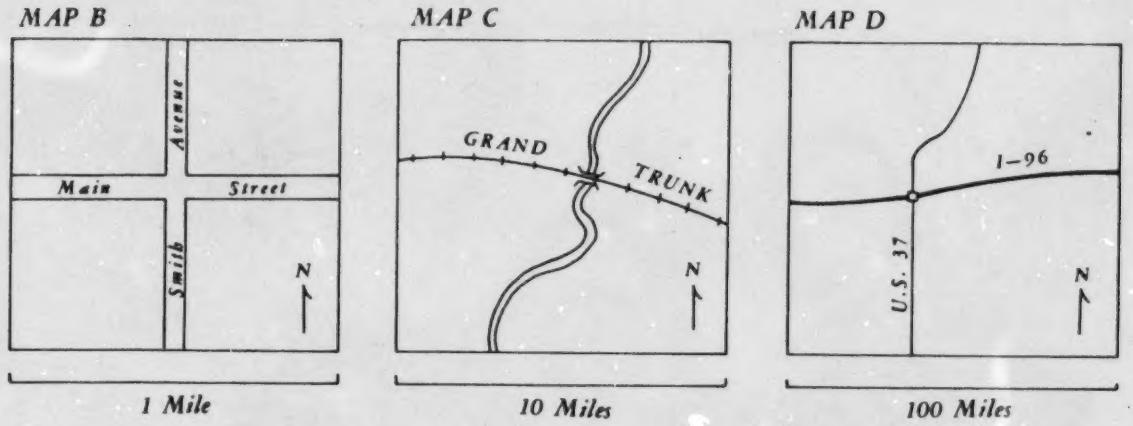
1. Bob lives at Point Y in Smith Town. He wishes to visit John who lives at Point X. In what direction must Bob travel to visit John?
   1. North
   2. South
   3. East
   4. West

2. John lives in Smith Town at Point X. He wishes to visit his friend, Bob. Bob lives at Point Y. How far must John travel to visit Bob?
   1. About 1000 feet
   2. About 3000 feet
   3. About 5000 feet
   4. About 7000 feet

3. Sue lives in Block D. Greta's house in Block C is what direction from Sue?
   1. Southwest
   2. Northwest
   3. Northeast
   4. Southeast

4. Michele has a paper route. Every morning she walks from her home on Kennedy Avenue at Point C to Brown Street, then along Brown Street to Adams Avenue, then along Adams Avenue to White Street, along White Street to Kennedy Avenue, then along Kennedy to her home. In order, from first to last, what directions has she walked along her paper route?
   1. West, North, East, and South
   2. North, West, North, East, and South
   3. North, East, North, West, and South
   4. South, East, South, West, and North

MAPS B-D: TRANSPORTATION ROUTES



5. Here are three sketch maps. Which one shows the largest area?
   1. Map B
   2. Map C
   3. Map D
   4. All maps show the same area

6. On Map D, I-96 and U.S. 37 are _____.
   1. Highways
   2. Pipelines
   3. Rivers
   4. Railroads

7. Look at Map B. Suppose you were riding your bike north on Smith Avenue. Then you turned right on Main Street. In what direction would you now be riding?
   1. Over
   2. Across
   3. East
   4. West

8. Which statement about the maps above is correct?
   1. Smith Avenue is longer than Main Street.
   2. Grand Trunk is longer than I-96.
   3. I-96 is longer than Grand Trunk.
   4. Smith Avenue is longer than Grand Trunk.

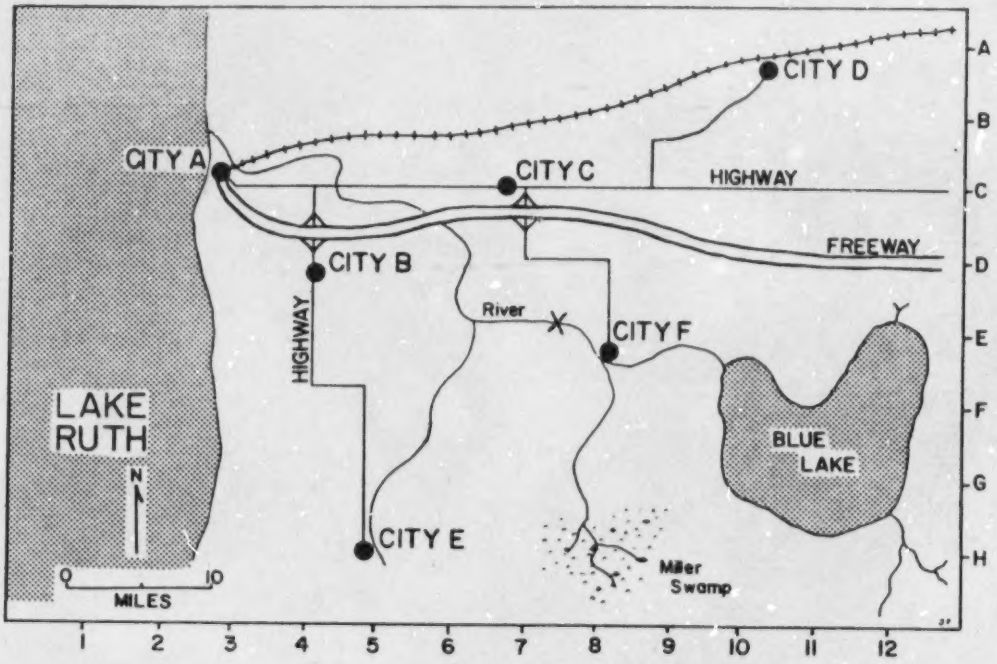
MAPS B-D: TRANSPORTATION ROUTES

9. If Todd were to walk from West to East over the area represented by each of the sketch maps above, which one would take the least amount of time to cross?
   1. Map B
   2. Map C
   3. Map D
   4. All maps would take the same time to cross.

10. Which map above shows a type of transportation route not made by people?
   1. Only Map B
   2. Only Map C
   3. Only Map D
   4. Both Maps C and D

11. On Map C Grand Trunk crosses a _____.
   1. River
   2. Railroad
   3. Highway
   4. Pipeline

MAP E: LAKE RUTH, TOWNS AND CITIES, MIDWEST U.S.A.



12. Scott lives in City E. In what direction would he walk to get to Point X?
    1. Across
    2. Northwest
    3. Northeast
    4. Up

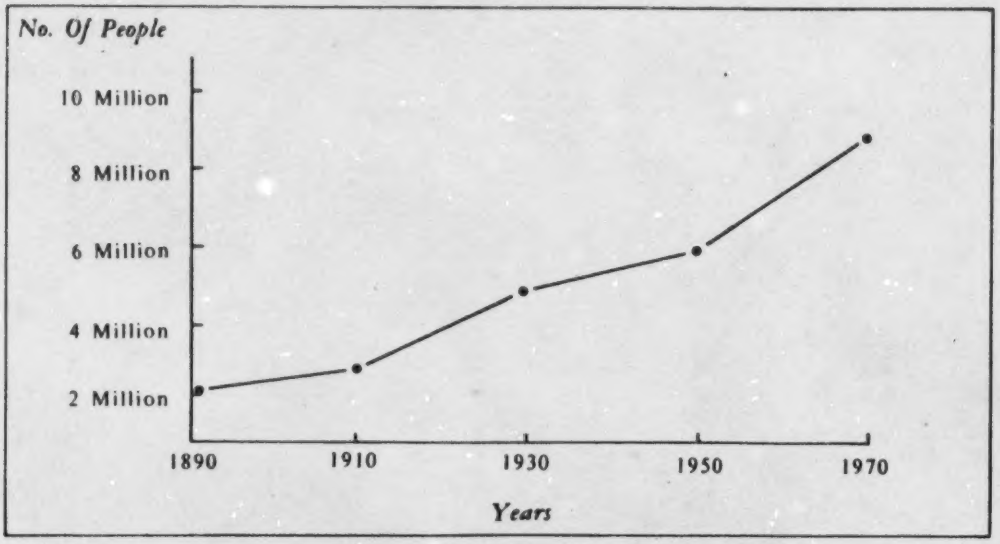
13. About how many miles is it from City D to City A by railroad?
    1. 20 miles
    2. 40 miles
    3. 50 miles
    4. 60 miles

14. City F is located nearest Point _____.
    1. 7E
    2. 7F
    3. 8E
    4. 8F

15. About how long would it take Jill to cross Blue Lake at its widest part from north to south in a motor boat traveling at 15 miles per hour?
    1. About 2 1/2 hours
    2. About 2 hours
    3. About 1 1/2 hours
    4. About 1 hour

16. In order from first to last, what directions will Lori travel if she drives from City D to City A?
    1. Southwest, South, and West
    2. Southeast, South, and East
    3. West, South, and West
    4. East, Southwest, and East

FIGURE 1: HOMESTATE'S POPULATION GROWTH, 1890-1970



17. The figure above shows how many people lived in Homestate in 1890, 1910, 1930, 1950, and 1970. How many people lived in Homestate in 1950?
    1. About 4 million
    2. About 6 million
    3. About 8 million
    4. About 10 million

18. When did the population of Homestate grow by about 2 million people?
    1. Between 1890 and 1910
    2. Between 1910 and 1930
    3. Between 1930 and 1950
    4. Between 1930 and 1970

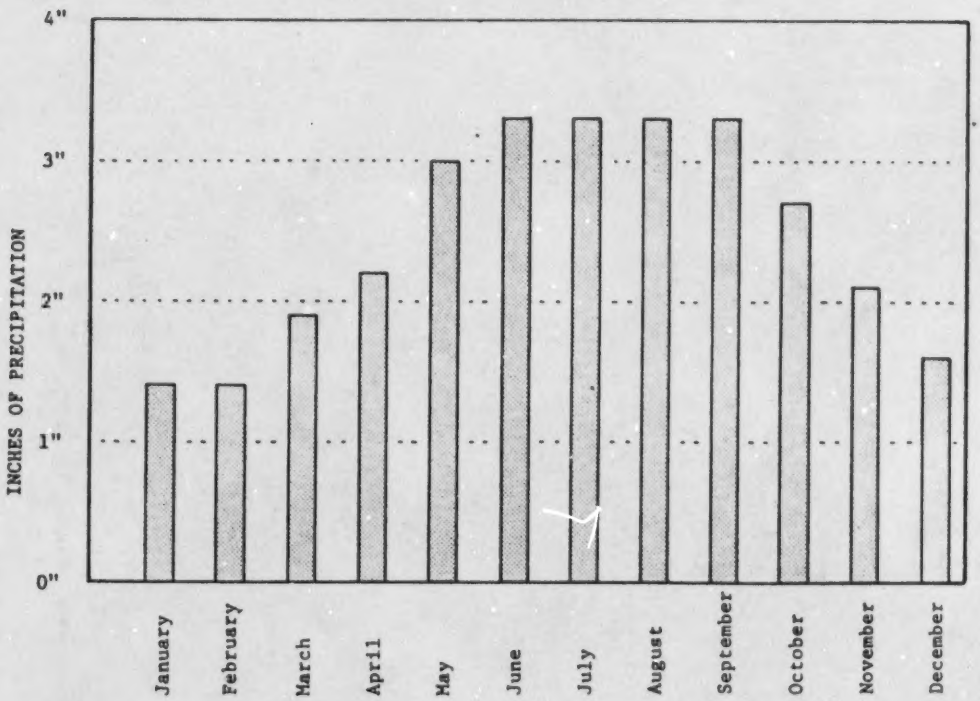
19. The figure above is called _____.
    1. A graph
    2. A drawing
    3. A diagram
    4. A table

20. What was probably true of Homestate's population in 1870?
    1. More people lived in Homestate than in 1890.
    2. Fewer people lived in Homestate than in 1890.
    3. The same number of people lived in Homestate as in 1890.
    4. No people lived in Homestate in 1870.

21. When did the population of Homestate have its biggest increase?
    1. Between 1890 and 1910
    2. Between 1910 and 1930
    3. Between 1930 and 1950
    4. Between 1950 and 1970

22. How many more people lived in Homestate in 1970 than in 1930?
    1. About 4 million
    2. About 5 million
    3. About 6 million
    4. About 7 million

FIGURE 2: PRECIPITATION IN GOODTOWN, U.S.A.



23. Which season has the most precipitation?
    1. Summer
    2. Fall
    3. Winter
    4. Spring

24. About how many inches of precipitation fall in Goodtown in one year?
    1. About 10 inches
    2. About 20 inches
    3. About 30 inches
    4. About 40 inches

25. About how many inches of precipitation fall in Goodtown in the Winter time?
    1. About 5 inches
    2. About 7 inches
    3. About 9 inches
    4. About 10 inches

26. How does the amount of precipitation received in Goodtown in Fall compare to the amount received in Spring?
    1. There are several more inches in Spring.
    2. The amounts are about equal.
    3. There are at least 5 more inches in Fall than in Spring.
    4. The Fall is very dry; the Spring very wet.

27. Which month has just a little less than 2 inches of precipitation?
    1. February
    2. March
    3. April
    4. December

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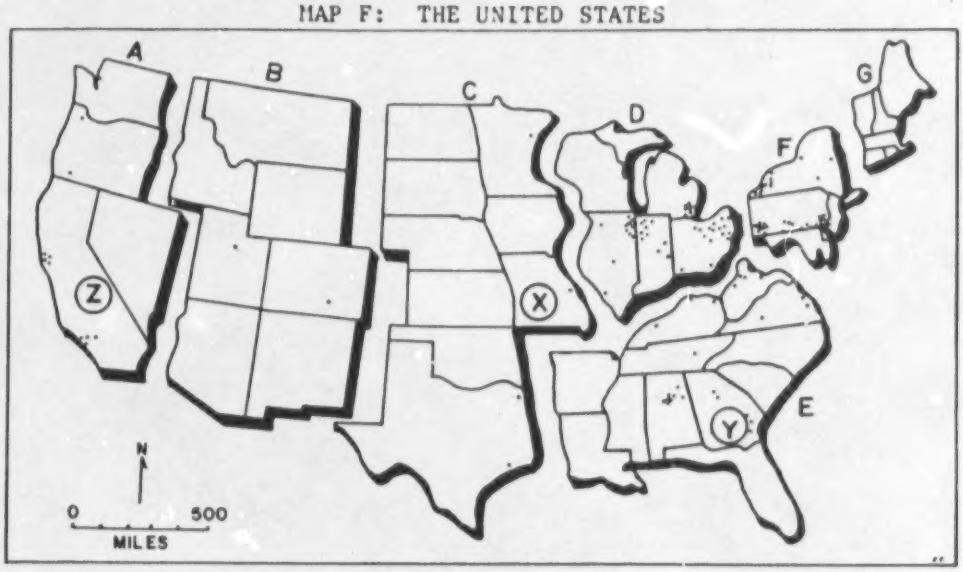
PART II - PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY

MAP F: THE UNITED STATES



28. Where are the Rocky Mountains?
    1. Region A
    2. Region B
    3. Region C
    4. Region D

29. Which of these ideas applies to the place marked with a Y?
    1. High mountains
    2. Long, hot summers
    3. Little rain
    4. Heavy snow

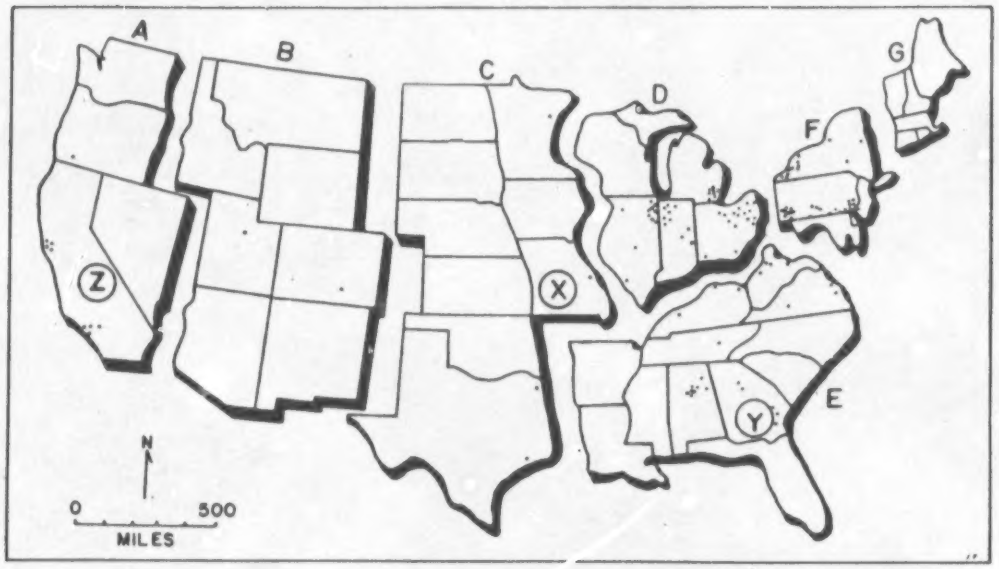
30. Choose the best description of Region G.
    1. Plains; mild, wet winters and hot, wet summers; cotton growing
    2. High mountains; cold, dry winters; cool, dry summers; gold mining
    3. Hills and mountains; cold, wet winters; cool, wet summers; lobster fishing
    4. Plains; cold, wet winters; hot, wet summers; corn farming

31. If you were to visit the place marked with a Z, you would find many _____.
    1. Plateaus
    2. Plains
    3. Mountains
    4. Low hills

32. Which region has the coldest winter along its coast?
    1. Region A
    2. Region C
    3. Region E
    4. Region G

33. Which of these states has much <u>less</u> precipitation than the state marked with an X?
    1. Mississippi
    2. South Carolina
    3. New Mexico
    4. Florida

MAP F: THE UNITED STATES



34. Where are the Appalachian Mountains?
    1. Region B
    2. Region C
    3. Region D
    4. Region E

35. The Great Lakes are located closest to region _____?
    1. C
    2. D
    3. E
    4. F

36. The Mississippi River flows between which of the following regions?
    1. Regions A and B
    2. Regions B and C
    3. Regions C and D
    4. Regions D and E

37. Which of the regions on Map F has a mild climate all year along its western side?
    1. A
    2. D
    3. F
    4. G

38. Which statement describes a major difference between Region B and Region C?
    1. Region B is mostly plains; Region C is mostly hills
    2. Region B is mostly plateaus, mountains and valleys; Region C is mostly plains
    3. Region B is mostly hills; Region C is mostly plateaus
    4. Region B is mostly plateaus; Region C is mostly mountains

39. Where on Map F could solar energy most easily be used in place of existing energy sources during the winter?
    1. The northern part of Region C
    2. The southern part of Region B
    3. The southern part of Region D
    4. The southern part of Region F

MAP G: NORTHERN HEMISPHERE

40. Here is a map of part of the world. Where do you live?
    1. Place 1
    2. Place 2
    3. Place 3
    4. Place 4

41. Where is the North Pole?
    1. Point W
    2. Point X
    3. Point Y
    4. Point Z

42. Areas 1, 2, 3 and 4 are _____.
    1. Deserts
    2. Continents
    3. Lakes
    4. Oceans

43. The Gulf of Mexico is found at _____.
    1. Place 5
    2. Place 6
    3. Place 7
    4. Place 8

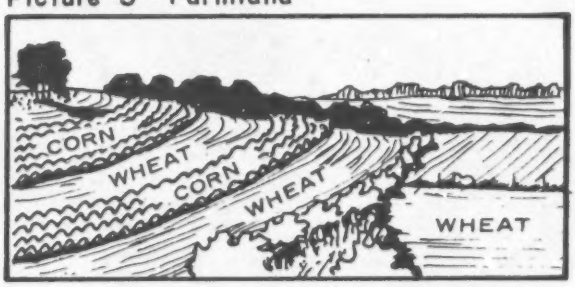
44. Where would we find the coldest winter-time temperatures?
    1. Place E
    2. Place G
    3. Place H
    4. Place I

FIGURE 3: PLACES IN NORTH AMERICA

Picture 1 – Forest

Picture 2 – Wheat and Grassland

Picture 3 – Farmland



Picture 4 – House Construction Site

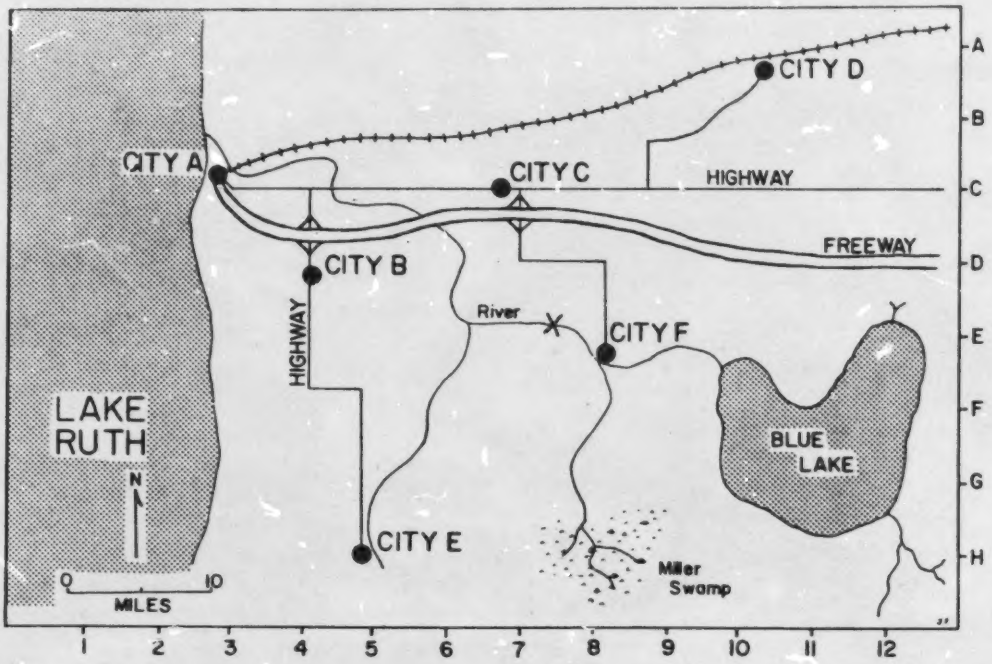
45. If it rained very hard, which place would have the least protection from the rain?
    1. Picture 1
    2. Picture 2
    3. Picture 3
    4. Picture 4

46. Which place has been changed the least by people?
    1. Picture 1
    2. Picture 2
    3. Picture 3
    4. Picture 4

47. Why has the farmer in Picture 3 planted the corn and wheat around the hill in strips?
    1. To stop the wind from blowing the soil away.
    2. To allow the corn and wheat to receive more sunlight.
    3. To prevent the soil on the hill from washing away during rains.
    4. To allow the wheat to receive more moisture.

48. Why are there no trees growing on the land in Picture 2?
    1. The amount of precipitation received each year is too low.
    2. The amount of precipitation received each year is too high.
    3. The temperature throughout the year is too cool.
    4. The temperature throughout the year is too hot.

MAP E: LAKE RUTH, TOWNS AND CITIES, MIDWEST, U.S.A.



49. John throws a stick into the river at Point X. It floats along with the river current. Which way will the stick float?
    1. Toward Blue Lake
    2. Toward City E
    3. Toward Miller Swamp
    4. Toward City A

50. In early October the surface temperature of the water in Lake Ruth is warmer than the soil in fields around City E. Why?
    1. The soil receives less sunlight than the water.
    2. The water holds its summertime heat longer than the soil.
    3. The soil reflects most of the sunlight.
    4. Sunlight can warm water but not soil.

51. Which city probably will have the <u>coolest</u> temperatures in late April?
    1. City A
    2. City C
    3. City D
    4. City F

52. Which place probably has the <u>lowest</u> elevation?
    1. Blue Lake
    2. City F
    3. Point X
    4. Lake Ruth

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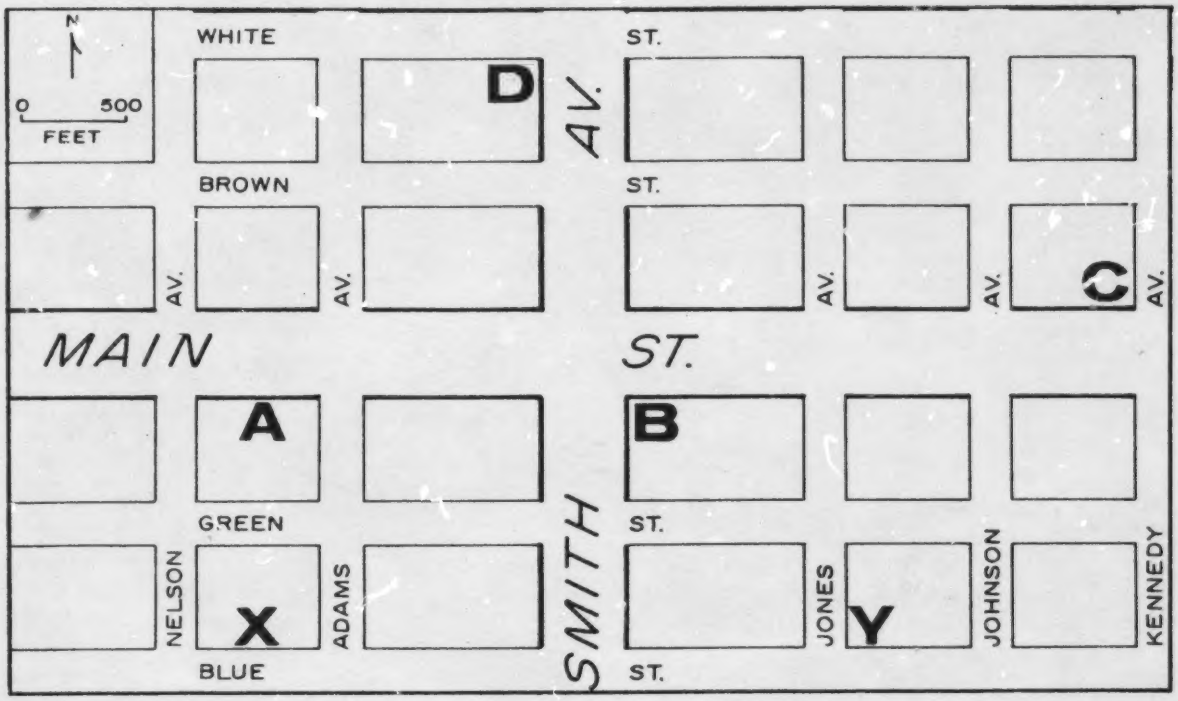
PART III - HUMAN GEOGRAPHY

MAP A: SMITH TOWN

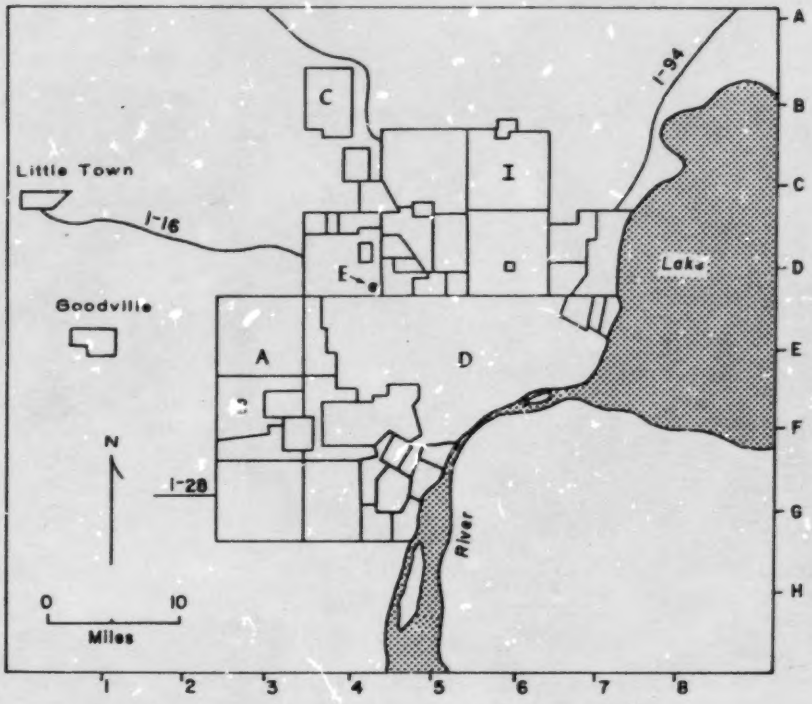


53. Look at Map A. Mr. Brown wants to build a gas station. He wants to build it where the most cars would drive by. Where should Mr. Brown build his gas station?
    1. Point A
    2. Point B
    3. Point C
    4. Point D

54. The Smith Town town council has decided to install crosswalk lights to make street crossings safer. The lights probably should be installed at the intersection of _____.
    1. Johnson Avenue and Green Street
    2. Smith Avenue and Brown Street
    3. Johnson Avenue and Brown Street
    4. Smith Avenue and Main Street

55. Which Avenue on Map A probably has the most lanes of traffic on it?
    1. Adams
    2. Smith
    3. Jones
    4. Johnson

MAP H: METROPOLITAN AREA
(population - 4 million)



56. Areas A, B, and I are called _____.
    1. Suburbs
    2. Counties
    3. States
    4. Nations

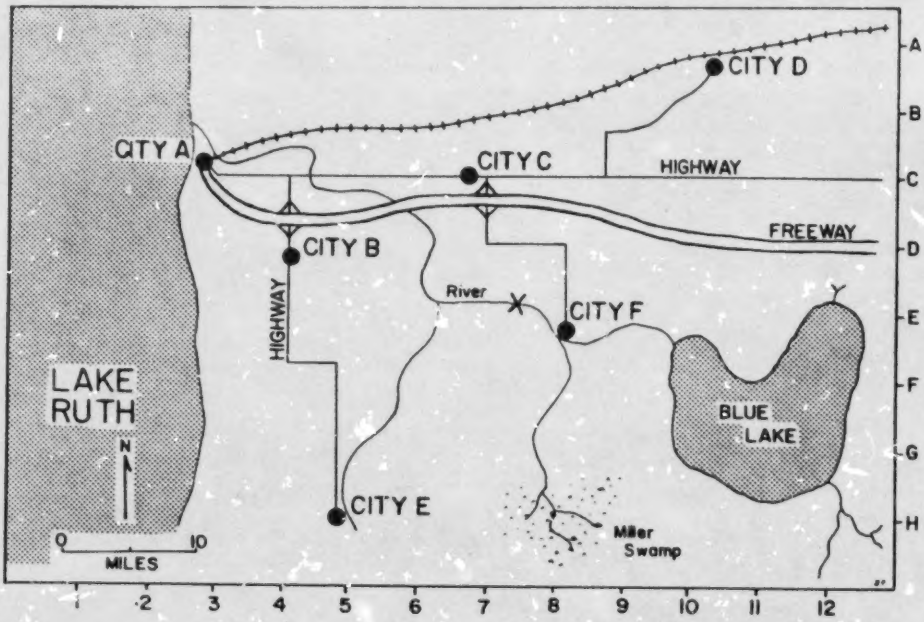
57. Look at Map H. Where would pollution from cars likely be greatest?
    1. Area A
    2. Area B
    3. Area C
    4. Area D

58. Where on Map H might large numbers of people experience problems because of crowded, inadequate housing?
    1. Area A
    2. Area B
    3. Area C
    4. Area D

59. Every day hundreds of people travel from Little Town to Area D. Why?
    1. They are visiting their friends and relatives in Area D.
    2. They like to get away from Little Town.
    3. They don't have any stores in Little Town.
    4. They are going to their jobs in Area D.

60. What is probably happening to the land between Goodville and Area A?
    1. It was farm land. Now people are building homes on it.
    2. People had homes on it. Now farmers are growing food on it.
    3. There were many factories there. Now they are gone and many parks are being built there.
    4. There were parks on it. Now factories are being built there.

MAP E: LAKE RUTH, TOWNS AND CITIES, MIDWEST U.S.A.



61. Which city probably has the least amount of air, water, and noise pollution?
    1. City A
    2. City B
    3. City C
    4. City E

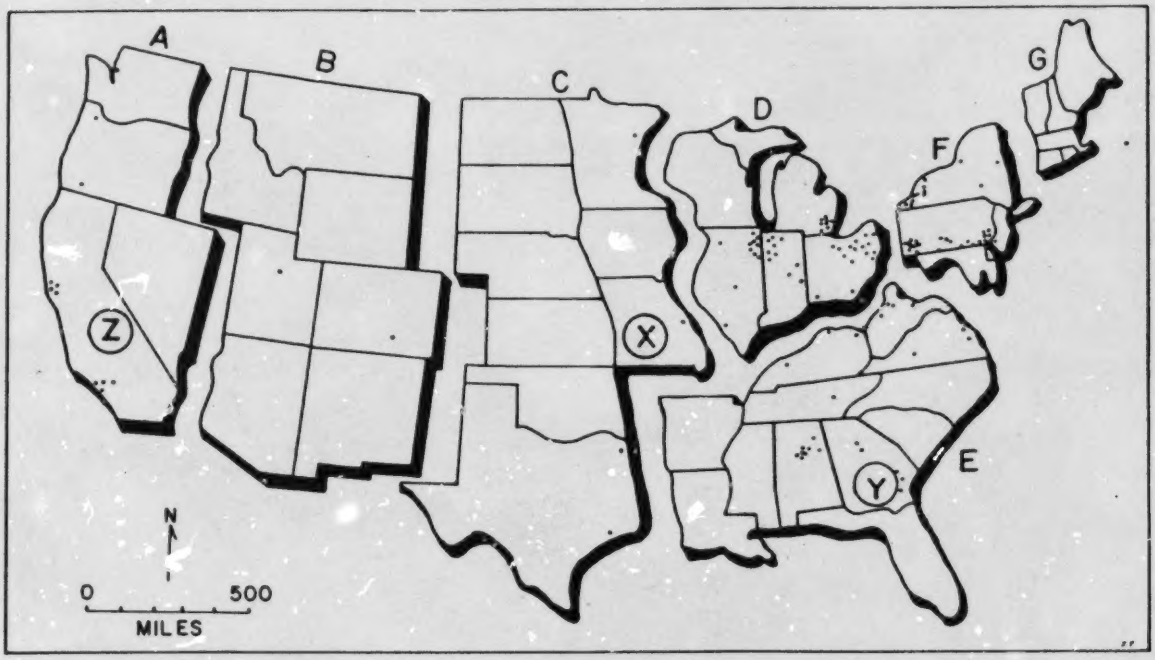
62. Which city on Map E probably would not have a Holiday Inn?
    1. City A
    2. City B
    3. City C
    4. City E

63. Mr. Jones raises melons on his farm near City F and sells them to people in City A. What form of transportation would Mr. Jones most likely use to take his melons to market?
    1. Tractor and wagon
    2. Train
    3. Truck
    4. Airplane

64. Lynn lives in a suburb near one of the cities on Map E. Lynn probably lives near city _____.
    1. A
    2. D
    3. E
    4. F

65. On which of the features on Map E have people probably had the least amount of influence?
    1. The railroad
    2. Miller Swamp
    3. The freeway
    4. City A

MAP F: THE UNITED STATES



66. Each dot on Map F shows a kind of activity. What kind of activity do you think it is?
    1. Tool manufacturing
    2. Cattle ranching
    3. Snow skiing
    4. Pumping oil wells

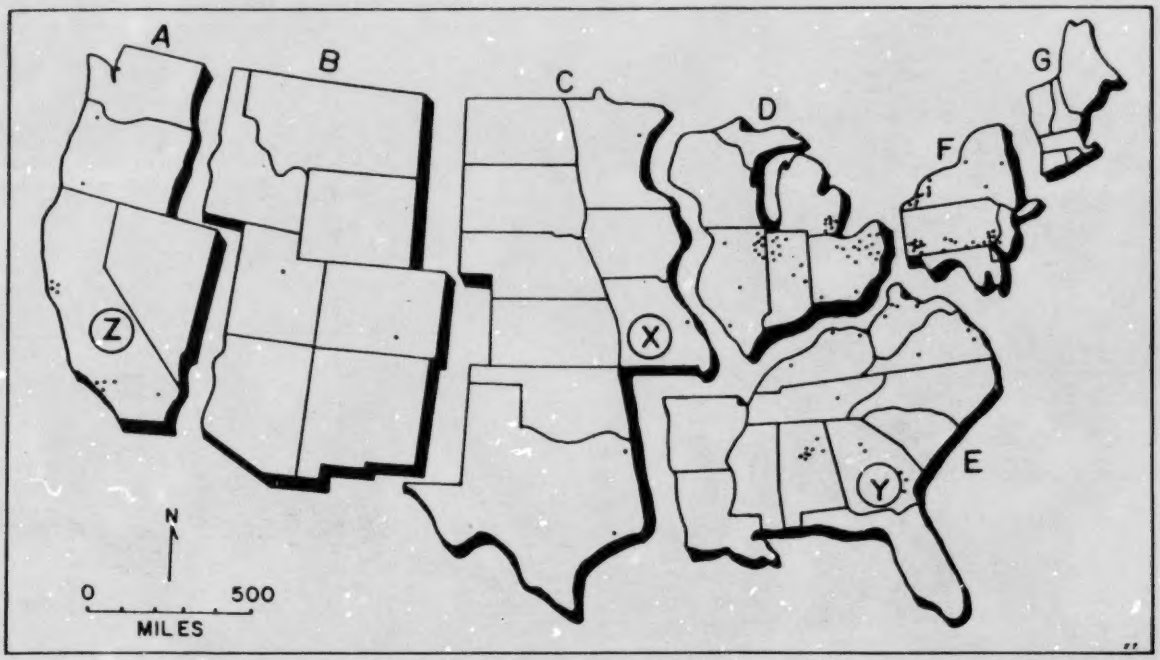
67. Which Region on Map F is famous for dairy farming?
    1. Region B
    2. Region C
    3. Region D
    4. Region E

68. Which Region has towns and cities built up side-by-side along most of its eastern edge?
    1. Region D
    2. Region E
    3. Region F
    4. Region G

69. Where do the greatest number of people live in the United States?
    1. Regions A and B
    2. Regions B and C
    3. Regions C and D
    4. Regions D and E

70. What Regions on Map F have the largest numbers of big cities?
    1. Regions A and B
    2. Regions B and C
    3. Regions C and D
    4. Regions D and F

MAP F: THE UNITED STATES



71. Which Region has the smallest number of people living in it?
    1. Region B
    2. Region C
    3. Region D
    4. Region F

72. **Many older people**, after retiring from their jobs, move away from the place where they have lived for many years. Large numbers of these people move from _____.
    1. Region F to Region D
    2. Region D to Region E
    3. Region F to Region G
    4. Region C to Region D

73. Which of the following groups of cities is located in Region F?
    1. Chicago, Milwaukee, Detroit, Indianapolis
    2. Boston, Bangor, Concord, Hartford
    3. Little Rock, Lexington, Memphis, Jacksonville
    4. Pittsburgh, Syracuse, Newark, Baltimore

74. New Orleans and Atlanta are located in Region _____.
    1. B
    2. C
    3. D
    4. E

75. Which of the following groups of cities is located in Region A?
    1. Kansas City, Dallas, Omaha, Minneapolis
    2. Denver, Boise, Salt Lake City, Phoenix
    3. Seattle, Reno, San Francisco, Portland
    4. Charleston, Nashville, Richmond, Jackson

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Printed by the Illinois State University Press, General Services Building, Illinois State University, Normal, Illinois 61761.